

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 59-62, 68-72, 74, 75 and 77 without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-62. (Canceled)

63. (Currently Amended) A ~~container~~blending apparatus according to claim 5976, wherein the lid includes access means arranged to permit access to the food product in the vessel when the lid and vessel are in an assembled condition.

64. (Currently Amended) A ~~container~~blending apparatus according to claim 63, wherein the access means is an opening through the lid, the opening being closed during blending.

65. (Currently Amended) A ~~container~~blending apparatus according to claim 5976, wherein the impeller is mounted for rotation relative to the lid by location through an opening in the lid as a push fit, and wherein the impeller is secured in the opening by an integral clip.

66. (Currently Amended) A ~~container~~blending apparatus according to claim 65, wherein the impeller includes a shaft forming a bearing surface against the walls of the opening, the shaft being integral with impeller blades of the impeller.

67. (Currently Amended) A ~~container~~blending apparatus according to claim 5976, wherein the impeller is of one piece plastics construction.

68-72. (Canceled)

73. (Currently Amended) A blending apparatus according to claim ~~74~~76, comprising a jug into which the vessel is located during a blending operation, wherein the vessel is secured on the mounting means during blending.

74. (Canceled)

75. (Canceled)

76. (Previously Presented) A blending apparatus for blending food product comprising a vessel having an upper opening through which food product is chargeable into the vessel,

a lid for closing the upper opening,

blending means for blending food product in the vessel,

drive means driveably connectable to the blending means, and

securing means for securing the vessel in relation to the drive means during blending, the securing means including means for releasably locating the vessel between a vessel support on which the lid is locatable and a securing member engageable with the vessel during a blending action,

the blending means including an impeller mounted on the lid for rotation relative thereto and for location within the vessel, the impeller being united with the lid during use.

77. (Canceled)

78. (New) A blending apparatus according to claim 76, comprising an adapter separate from the vessel and interconnecting the blending means and the drive means, the

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adapter including a coupling drivingly engageable at one end with the blending means,  
and at the opposite end with the drive means.

79. (New) A blending apparatus according to claim 76, wherein the vessel is nestable with other similar vessels by being located one inside the other, the open end of one vessel receiving therethrough the opposite end of the other vessel.